

**Amendments to the Abstract:**

Please insert the Abstract into the specification as the last page thereof.

A method for identifying an individual includes the steps of collecting data from an individual's face using visible and infrared cameras, processing the acquired data, fitting a geometric model template of the face to the data according to a mathematical method, processing the fitted model to extract relevant first metadata, storing the first metadata in a machine readable format, and comparing second metadata to the first metadata, to determine their degree of similarity in order to identify the individual.